

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

William Bernard Fischer	:	
	:	
v.	:	C-2023-3038986
	:	
PECO Energy Company	:	

**ORDER LIFTING STAY**

On March 15, 2023, William Bernard Fischer (Complainant) filed a formal complaint (Complaint) against PECO Energy Company (PECO or Respondent). On the Complaint form, Mr. Fischer stated that the utility was threatening to shut off his service, that PECO placed the account in the wrong name and that the balance should be billed to and have the names Matthew James Fischer and William Bernard Fischer.

On March 29, 2023, the Respondent filed its Answer (Answer), denying the material averments of the Complaint. In the Answer, PECO also stated that the company is authorized under 66 Pa. C.S. § 1406 to terminate service where there is a delinquent balance. The company also averred that it agreed to change the name on the account and further stated that the Complainant is responsible for the outstanding balance.

By Hearing Notice dated April 25, 2023, an Initial Call-In Telephonic Hearing was scheduled for June 7, 2023, and the matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Darlene Heep.

A Prehearing Order was issued on May 3, 2023, advising the parties of the date and time of the scheduled hearing, and informing them of the procedures applicable to the proceeding.

On May 12, 2023, a Rescheduled Initial Telephonic Hearing Notice was issued rescheduling the hearing for June 20, 2023.

On June 20, 2023, the hearing convened as scheduled. The Complainant appeared *pro se* and testified on his own behalf. PECO was represented by Khadijah Scott, Esquire. During the hearing, the Complainant stated that he had to appear at another hearing and requested that the hearing end at that time. Tr. 36-37. ALJ Heep granted the Complainant's request and advised the parties that a further hearing would be scheduled. *Id.*

On July 17, 2023, Counsel for PECO advised ALJ Heep that the Complainant had contacted PECO and stated he had filed for bankruptcy. PECO also forwarded information in its records regarding the bankruptcy filing, recorded as case number #23-11799.

By Order dated July 17, 2023, this matter was stayed by operation of federal law pending resolution of the Complainant's bankruptcy petition. The parties were also directed to file status reports with the Commission every ninety days until the bankruptcy proceeding concluded.

By Motion Judge Change – Assignment Notice dated August 13, 2024, this matter was reassigned to me.

On October 22, 2024, PECO filed its Status Report #5, wherein Counsel for PECO advised that the Complainant's bankruptcy was discharged on July 23, 2024.

Accordingly, as the Complainant's bankruptcy case has been discharged, by the terms of the Stay Order, the stay is now lifted, and a Further Hearing can be scheduled to address the issues remaining in this Complaint.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the stay of this proceeding is now lifted.
  
2. That a Further Hearing be scheduled in this matter to address the issues remaining in the Complainant's Complaint.

Date: November 22, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_/s  
F. Joseph Brady  
Administrative Law Judge

**C-2023-3038986 - WILLIAM FISCHER v. PECO ENERGY COMPANY**

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